

METHOD OF REDUCING TOXICITY OF RETINOIDS

ABSTRACT

A method of minimizing or reducing the toxicity of a retinoid having a free
5 carboxyl group is described. The method comprises the step of esterifying the
carboxyl group of the retinoid with a highly sterically hindered compound, which is
preferably an alcohol. The resulting retinoid esters are rendered much less toxic
than the starting or parent retinoid. This process provides a retinoid ester analog of
reduced toxicity so that it may be administered orally with minimal side effects and
10 with a much greater therapeutic window.